

Introduction

1.1 Overview

The On Demand Testing program uses software developed by the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority (VCAA). This software is referred to as *VCAA Assessment Online*.

There are two components to the VCAA Assessment Online application – the **Central Server** and the **School Server** (see Figure 1.1).

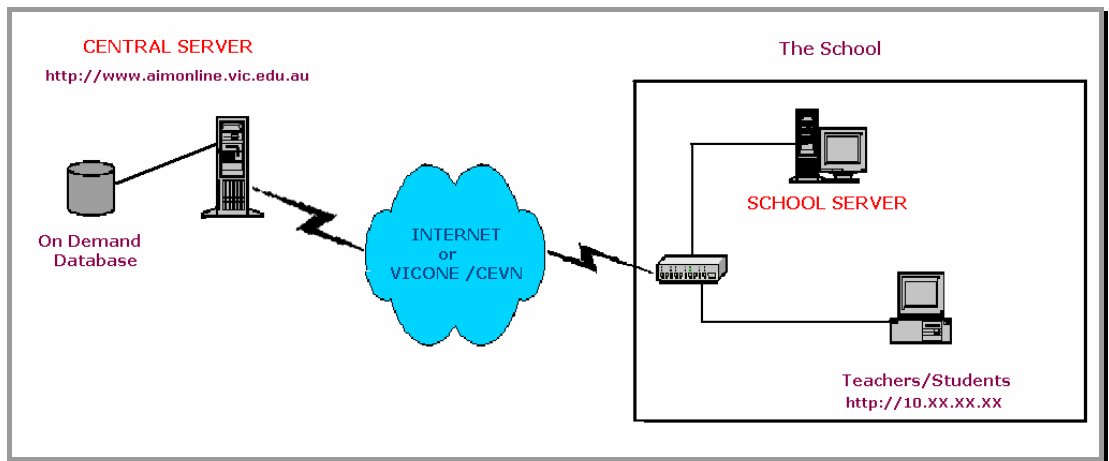


Figure 1.1 VCAA Assessment Online

THE CENTRAL SERVER

The Central Server is essentially a database that stores all public questions and tests the VCAA has created for the On Demand Testing program. The Central Server is available via the internet and can be accessed from the following web address:

<http://www.aimonline.vic.edu.au>

Each school is provided with a unique username and password for the Central Server site from where they can search, preview and download tests to their school. Contact the VCAA help desk on 1800 827 721 if you do not have the appropriate login for this site.

THE SCHOOL SERVER

The School Server is the other component of VCAA Assessment Online. The school is required to install software on a compatible server at the school. This software is supplied free by the VCAA. In government schools, this software is installed on the CASES21 server. Once this software has been installed and configured, schools can download tests from the Central Server. The School Server must be set up in order to receive downloaded tests from the Central Server.

The School Server operates on the school's local network and relies on the internet only for downloading tests from the Central Server. Once the software is installed and configured, a dedicated website address is used to enable all users (Teachers and Students) to access the application within the school's network via an Internet Explorer browser. This is the School Server homepage. The address for the School Server is unique in each school but will consist of four groups of digits, such as, <http://123.45.67.89> (NB: this is just an example).

Teacher and students access the School Server application and sit the tests within the school's local area network (LAN) and do not rely on the internet during this time. In government schools, the School Server is accessible from the curriculum network even though the server resides on the CASES server on the administration network.

Tests that are downloaded remain permanently on the School Server. You will need to import student details and create user accounts for other teachers at your school before you start testing online.

Setting up test sessions, sitting tests and viewing reports are other functions available on the school server. All test results and student information is stored locally on the School Server.